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BOROUGH OF CHORLEY

ANNUAL REPORT

**OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
AND THE
Chief Public Health Inspector
FOR THE YEAR
1959**

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CHORLEY,
1960.

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BOROUGH OF CHORLEY

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

1959

His Worship the Mayor, Councillor Mrs. C. M. MONKS.

Alderman	R. EVANS.	Alderman	B. H. GASKELL.
„	T. GRIME.	„	T. HEATON.
„	Mrs. B. M. GILLETT.	„	J. B. HINDLE.
Councillor	A. BARNES.	„	W. WILCOCK.
„	W. CORCORAN.	„	W. LOWE.
„	G. CROOK.	Councillor	W. BLEASDALE.
„	H. B. DAVIES.	„	Miss E. E. J. CUNLIFFE
„	D. DUNN.	„	J. HATCH.
„	Miss A. FORSHAW.	„	H. HEAP.
„	G. F. JONES.	„	M. NEWSOME.
„	P. KEANE.	„	W. RAWCLIFFE.
„	G. R. RIGBY.	„	B. RILEY.
„	T. ROWLANDSON.	„	I. SELLERS.
„	A. R. SHEPPARD.	„	T. C. SHORROCK.
„	N. SMALLEY.	„	G. HUTCHINSON.
„	G. SIBBALD.		

Chairman of Health and Sanitary Committee:

Councillor W. RAWCLIFFE.

Vice-Chairman of Health and Sanitary Committee:

Councillor G. R. RIGBY.

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health :

J. WALKER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., L.D.S., D.P.D.

STAFF.

Chief Public Health Inspector :

R. P. B. LUND, Cert. R.S.H. (Cert. Inspector of Meat and other Foods). (Retired November).

H. WARD, M.R.S.H. (Cert. Inspector of Smoke, Meat and other Foods). (from November).

Additional Public Health Inspectors :

H. WARD, M.R.S.H. (Cert. Inspector of Smoke, Meat and other Foods). (until November).

F. MYERS, A.R.S.H.

G. H. WATCHORN, A.R.S.H. (Cert. Inspector of Meat and other Foods).

Clerical Staff :

R. HEAPS. J. S. SMITH (until May). D. ASHCROFT (from June).

To:

THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH AND SANITARY
COMMITTEE — CHORLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary circumstances of the Borough for the year ended 31st December, 1959.

The number of live births attributable to the Borough was more than in the previous year — 511 against 459, an increase of 52. This gives a birth rate of 16.3 as compared with 16.5 for England and Wales. The number of still-births was 13 compared with 8 in 1958.

Deaths attributable to the Borough in 1959 were 457 as compared with 437 in the preceding year. The death rate from all causes was accordingly 14.5 — the highest since 1951, when the rate was the same. The death rate for the Country as a whole was 11.6. Deaths from malignant tumours (cancer) with 80 deaths, show the largest increase — 22 more than in the previous year — and of these deaths 17 were from cancer of the lung or bronchus. The death rate from cancer for the Borough was 2.54 as compared with 2.14 for the whole country. Deaths from coronary heart disease numbered 59 — an increase of 6. It is pleasing to report that there were no deaths attributable to maternal causes. There were two such deaths the previous year. The number of infants who died before reaching one year of age was 7 as compared with 17 in 1958. The resultant Infant Mortality Rate is 13.7. This is the lowest rate ever recorded in the Borough, the previous lowest being 18.0 in 1957. The Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales was 22.0. Other causes of death show only comparatively small variation from the previous year.

The number of notifications of infectious diseases was 425 as compared with only 85 in the previous year. This increase is largely accounted for by the 300 cases of measles notified as against 9 in 1958. Dysentery notifications numbered 24, whilst there were no notifications of this disease the previous year. It is pleasing to report again that there were no notifications of diphtheria or poliomyelitis.

During the year only two small clearance areas comprising 8 houses and several other buildings were represented but 48 individual houses were represented for closure or demolition. Every effort should be made to speed up the clearance of the many unfit houses which still remain.

Reference was made in last year's Report to the impending closure of the King Street Common Lodging House. This took place on the 10th January, 1959, and inmates who could not find accommodation for themselves were admitted to residential accommodation provided by the County Council. There is no doubt that the closure of the two lodging houses has rid the Borough of an undesirable element.

Good progress was made in the construction of the East Valley Drainage scheme. Section I of the scheme was completed during the year and the three obsolete subsidiary sewage works demolished.

Much remains to be done in regard to the implementation of the Clean Air Act, 1956, both in regard to minimising the pollution from industrial sources and the question of smoke control areas for dealing with domestic smoke. A determined effort should be made to rid the atmosphere of smoke with all its harmful effects on the health of the community. A smoke laden atmosphere cuts off much beneficial sunshine, aggravates diseases of the chest, and gives housewives much unnecessary cleaning and washing to do.

During the year food hygiene, particularly in regard to the sale of food in the open market, continued to receive attention.

Mr. R. P. B. Lund, Chief Public Health Inspector, resigned his appointment in November, on reaching retirement age. Mr. Lund had held the appointment for 26 years and took with him the best wishes of his colleagues and many friends for a long and happy retirement. He was succeeded by Mr. H. Ward, who was already on the staff as an Additional Public Health Inspector.

I should like in conclusion to express my sincere thanks to Dr. Black, the staff of the Health Department and all the officers and staff of other Departments who have so willingly given me assistance whenever requested; I am most grateful to the Chairman and Members of the Committee for their continued support and consideration shown to me.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. WALKER.

PART A.

Natural and Social Conditions and Vital Statistics.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The Borough of Chorley is a compact industrial Lancashire town covering nearly 4,300 acres, of which about 680 acres were added, in 1934, from the surrounding rural area, including the Duxbury Estate (650 acres) and parts of the parishes of Euxton and Heath Charnock.

The town is situated approximately at the centre of a triangle formed by the County Boroughs of Preston, Wigan and Bolton, and is placed on elevated ground (average about 300 feet) at the approaches to the Pennine Range, which rises sharply to the East, the sea being located approximately 10 miles to the West. The subsoil is mainly clay, with outcrops of sand and gravel.

The majority of the houses are the terraced type in the centre of the town with municipal housing estates on the outskirts. The town is well provided with several small green recreation grounds, and possesses in Astley Park, near the centre of the town,, a large natural parkland of much beauty, comprising nearly 100 acres.

The principal industries are cotton weaving, spinning and bleaching, motor works, floor-cloth manufacture, and steam laundries. A large proportion of female labour is normally employed.

VITAL STATISTICS

The following is a summary of the principal statistics for the years 1958 and 1959.

	1958	1959
Population (estimated)	31,500	31,440
Number of Deaths (corrected)	437	457
Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	13.9	14.5
Live Births	459	511
Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	14.6	16.3
Still-births	8	13
Still-births (per 1,000 live and still births)	17.1	24.8
Total live and still births	467	524
Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year)	17	7
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births—total	37	13.7
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births legitimate	37	11.7
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births illegitimate	—	2.0
Neo Natal Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (first four weeks)	28.3	5.9
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births (under 1 week)	—	3.9
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still-births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still-births)	—	28.6
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	2.18	3.52
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	2	—
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	4.28	—
Number of Deaths from Pulmonary Tuber- culosis	4	3
Death Rate per 1,000 population from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.13	0.10
Number of Deaths from all forms of Tuber- culosis	4	3
Death Rate per 1,000 population from all forms of Tuberculosis	0.13	0.10

The Borough covers an area of 4,292 acres

Population (Census 1951)	32,636
No. of inhabited houses (Rate Books)	10,446
Rateable Value of the Borough	£269,799
Product of 1d. Rate	£1,085

CAUSE OF DEATH

The following is a copy of the information supplied by the Registrar-General of the causes and sex distribution of deaths of Chorley residents.

	M.	F.	T.
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	3	—	3
2. Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic Disease	—	1	1
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	—	—
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	7	3	10
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	15	2	17
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	—	4	4
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	—	4	4
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	25	20	45
15. Leukæmia, Aleukæmia	—	—	—
16. Diabetes	—	1	1
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	32	39	71
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	34	25	59
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease	2	8	10
20. Other Heart Diseases	31	58	89
21. Other Circulatory Disease	8	13	21
22. Influenza	3	5	8
23. Pneumonia	8	10	18
24. Bronchitis	23	11	34
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	—	1
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	1	3
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhœa	—	1	1
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	2	4
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	—	1
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	—	—	—
31. Congenital Malformations	2	2	4
32. Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	13	11	24
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	5	1	6
34. Other Accidents	7	5	12
35. Suicide	3	3	6
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
	<hr/> 227	<hr/> 230	<hr/> 457

TABLE I.

	Live Births		Deaths (All Causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Pop'n	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Pop'n	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Total Births	No. of D'ths Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Total Births	Total		Neo-Natal	
									No. of D'ths Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Live Births	No. of D'ths Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Live Births
Year 1959	511	* 16.3	457	* 14.5	13	24.8	Nil.	Nil.	7	13.7	3	5.9
Year 1958	459	14.6	437	13.9	8	17	2	4.28	17	37	13	28.3
1957	503	15.9	390	12.3	17	33	Nil	Nil	9	18	8	16
1956	492	15.5	402	12.7	12	24	Nil	2.04	10	20	10	20
1955	473	14.9	457	14.4	16	33	1	Nil	13	27	10	21
1954	476	14.9	442	13.8	15	31	Nil	Nil	13	27	10	21
Avg. 5 years 1957-58	—	15.2	—	13.4	—	27.6	—	1.3	—	25.8	—	21.2
* Adjusted Live Birth Rate (Comparability Factor, 1.01) = 16.4 per 1000 Death Rate (Comparability Factor, 1.07) = 15.5 per 1000												

TABLE II.
Infant Mortality Rates.

Year	CHORLEY	England and Wales
1954	27	25.5
1955	27	24.9
1956	20	23.8
1957	18	23.0
1958	37	22.5
1959	13.7	22.0

TABLE III.
Birth Rates.

Year	CHORLEY	England and Wales
1954	14.9	15.2
1955	14.9	15.0
1956	15.5	15.7
1957	15.9	16.1
1958	14.6	16.4
1959	16.3	16.5

TABLE IV.
Death Rates.

Year	CHORLEY	England and Wales
1954	13.8	11.3
1955	14.4	11.7
1956	12.7	11.7
1957	12.3	11.5
1958	13.9	11.7
1959	14.5	11.6

TABLE V.

Birth and Death Rates in the Borough of Chorley since 1944.

	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Birth Rate	16.6	18.8	20.1	18.2	17.2	14.5	15.1	15.0	16.1	14.9	14.9	15.5	15.9	14.6	16.3
Death Rate	13.7	12.4	13.0	10.9	13.3	14.9	14.5	12.5	13.4	13.8	14.4	12.7	12.3	13.9	14.5
Infantile Mortality Rate	40.	53.	50.	33.	32.	25.	33.	35.	31.	27.	27	20.	18.0	37.0	13.7
Maternal Mortality Rate	0.	1.66	0.	0.	1.72	4.12	0.	0.	0.	0.	2.04	0	0.	4.28	0
Natural Increase	+2.9	+4.4	+6.9	+7.3	+3.9	-0.4	+0.6	+2.5	+2.7	+1.1	+0.5	+2.8	+3.6	+0.7	+1.8

TABLE VI.
Birth and Death Rates through 5-Yearly Periods.

	1905-09	1910-14	1915-19	1920-24	1925-29	1930-34	1935-39	1940-44	1945-49	1950-54	1955-59
Death Rate.....	16.5	15.3	15.3	12.5	12.3	13.0	13.7	13.4	12.7	13.8	13.6
Birth Rate	27.1	24.0	17.3	20.5	16.0	14.0	14.4	17.8	18.2	15.1	15.4
Infantile Mortality Rate	146	140	110	106	83	74.4	78.4	48.6	42.0	27.0	22.7
Natural Increase	+ 10.6	+ 8.7	+ 2.0	+ 7.6	+ 3.7	+ 1.0	+ 0.7	+ 4.4	+ 5.6	+ 1.3	+ 1.8

PART B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Since the National Health Service Act came into force the personal health services of the Borough have been administered by the Lancashire County Council, as the "Local Authority" under the Act. These services include the Ante-Natal Clinics, Child Welfare Clinics and the School Health Services—Medical and Dental, and the Home Nursing Services.

The Ambulance Service is also provided by the County Council.

The Hospital Services which include all the local and near-by hospitals, are now maintained by the Preston and Chorley Hospital Management Committee.

DETAILS OF COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES

AMBULANCE SERVICE. There are 4 ambulances, 2 sitting case cars and 1 dual purpose car stationed at the Ambulance Station in Pall Mall, Chorley. The work done by this station covers the area of the Borough and surrounding districts. All these vehicles are radio controlled from the County Ambulance Headquarters at Broughton.

MIDWIFERY SERVICE. There is 1 domiciliary Midwife in Chorley who attends expectant mothers who are confined at home.

HOME NURSING SERVICE. There are established in various parts of Chorley 4 female District Nurses, 2 State Enrolled Assistant Nurses and 2 male District Nurses. The duties of these nurses include nursing care of patients in their own homes and they arrange for the loan of nursing equipment in suitable cases.

HOME HELP SERVICE. Home Helps are employed in Chorley and help a variety of cases including confinements, sickness, old age and infirmity, and Tuberculosis cases. Night Helps are also employed where needed.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC. There is a weekly session held at 2 and 4 St. Thomas's Square, Chorley, when a specialist, employed by the Preston and Chorley Management Committee, attends.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES. Three Child Welfare Centres are open each week in the district, one at Eaves Lane, each Wednesday afternoon, one at Cunliffe Street open on Tuesdays and Fridays, and All Saints, Moor Road, being open Thursday afternoons. A Doctor and Health Visitor attend each clinic and advice is readily given in infant care and management and baby foods sold.

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE. Medical and hygiene inspections are carried out at the schools and clinic sessions are held at 2 and 4 St. Thomas's Square and 20 St. Thomas's Road, Chorley, for a variety of treatments including minor ailments, dental care, orthopaedic and ophthalmic conditions. The County Council make special provision for residential schooling for various categories of handicapped children such as the blind, partially sighted, deaf and dumb, epileptics, delicate and backward.

CONVALESCENT CARE. In suitable cases arrangements are made for the admission of patients to convalescent homes.

WELFARE SERVICES. Residential homes are provided to accommodate elderly and infirm persons who have no longer any one to adequately care for them. Handicapped persons are also assisted.

These Services are administered on behalf of Lancashire County Council by No. 4 Division Health Committee. The Divisional Medical Officer is Dr. J. Walker, 55, Victoria Road, Fulwood, Tel. Preston 77263 and the local Assistant Divisional Medical Officer of Health is Dr. D. J. Black, 2 and 4 St. Thomas's Square, Chorley, Tel. Chorley 2709.

LABORATORY FACILITIES. The facilities as described in previous reports continue to be utilised, i.e. the Preston Royal Infirmary Laboratories, and the County Analyst.

The new public health laboratory service is directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health, and caters for every aspect of the public health work of a local authority related to the bacteriological and pathological examinations of samples and specimens.

PART C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

PART C.**SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA****1. (a) Water****Source**

The town is supplied with water from the Liverpool Corporation Water Works at Rivington (the Chorley supply coming from filter beds at "The Nab") with the exception of some of the properties on the Duxbury Estate, whose supply is drawn from the Manchester supply, as the pipe lines to that city traverse the area on their way from Thirlmere. The water is soft (being upland surface water).

Analyses

Weekly bacteriological and periodical chemical analyses are carried out by the Liverpool Corporation who forward copies of their analyses to the Public Health Department. Since these copies were requested in 1941 the results have proved invariably satisfactory.

A period "check up" of these reports is made by analyses. Water Samples Taken:—

	No.	Chemical		Bacteriological	
		S.	U/S.	S.	U/S.
Public Supply...	8	3	—	5	—
Private	10	3	1	4	2
C.C. Baths ...	16	—	2	4	10
Private Baths ...	5	—	—	2	3

Potable—18 Samples.

Bath—21 Samples.

The Water supply continues to be chlorinated and treated by the soda ash process to prevent plumbo solvent action.

Supply

Practically all the houses within the Borough receive a mains water supply; the exceptions being the outlying farms and cottages. These number 16 dwelling-houses (including 7 farms).

In some cases a reasonably good water is rendered of doubtful quality by poor arrangements and conditions of pipes, or other extraneous cause.

There were 10,401 houses on a mains water supply in the Borough, at the end of the year. No houses are supplied by stand pipe.

Pressure

The pressure of water in some parts of the town is not good and leads to consequent neglect of all those main cleansing functions for which water is used.

In spite of the dry summer experienced, apart from restricting the use of hosepipes it was not found necessary to curtail the supply of water for domestic purposes.

In a few cases where the pressure was inadequate, owners have been persuaded to have steps taken to provide a sufficient supply.

The provision of a new piped supply from the main in the street is a costly item and consideration is being given by the Water Undertaking to bring the rising main to the stop taps on the footpath at their expense. I have no doubt that this would encourage more owners to re-lay the pipe for which they are responsible, thus providing an adequate supply at a reduced cost.

It is essential that a wholesome and sufficient supply of water is available to all householders, if a satisfactory standard of health is to be maintained.

Consumption per head

The average daily consumption of water per head of population is about 36.7 gallons, compared with 35.9 gallons for the previous year. (This figure includes the town's use of water for industrial purposes, as well as domestic).

(b) Drainage and Sewage.

The outlying farms and cottages in the Borough are parts not served by the water carriage system and houses in the Preston Road, Euxton Lane, Bolton Road, Wigan Lane and Carr Lane districts are drained to septic tanks, no sewers being available. Provisions for the sewerage of the Preston Road district were in hand at the end of the year.

Many small septic tanks give rise to nuisances by reason of blocked filters and the difficulty of assuring that the effluent is sufficiently dealt with. Consideration should be given to sewerage of these houses where practicable.

Disposal

The disposal is now effected at the works at Common Bank and Cowling.

The principal sewage works serving more than three quarters of the area of the Borough, is situated at Common Bank at the lowest part of the Town. Cowling subsidiary installation deals with sewage from the eastern and southern parts of the Borough.

Sewage from Chorley is received at Common Bank through four trunk sewers at the north east of the works, and that from Euxton and the Royal Ordnance Factory is conveyed through two separate sewers on the westerly side. The works comprise mechanically operated screens, detritus channels, sedimentation tanks, storm water tanks, percolating bacterial filters, humus and sludge digestion tanks, and sludge drying beds.

The construction of Section I of the East Valley Main Drainage Scheme was completed on the 4th September 1959 the sewage treatment works at Bagganley, Heapey and Botany were put out of action and demolished.

During the year considerable progress was made with the design of the second section of the Scheme and by the end of the year the Scheme was sufficiently advanced for informal discussions with the Technical Officers of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government to be requested.

The design of the extension to Common Bank Sewage Works was further delayed by discussions with the Bleachers Association regarding their application to discharge trade effluent to the works.

2. Rivers and Streams.

The Lancashire River Board has jurisdiction in regard to rivers and streams pollution in the Borough. The pollution of rivers and streams has become a national problem and stringent measures are required to combat this menace.

3. (a) Closet Accommodation.

Closet accommodation in the Borough is as follows:—

Privy middens	...	...	...	...	18
Closets attached to above middens	...	...	...	...	20
Pail Closets	...	...	...	...	30
Waste Water Closets	...	...	...	...	535
Fresh Water Closets	...	...	...	...	10,763

The privy middens and pail closets are located amongst the farm and outlying properties near the Borough boundary and none exist where sewers are available. They are mostly emptied by the owners, but the Corporation undertakes the emptying of some privy middens and pail closets.

Conversions

All new houses are fitted with fresh-water closets.	
Privy closets to fresh-water closets	—
Pail closets to fresh-water closets	—
Waste-water closets to fresh-water closets ...	27

In order to speed up the conversion rate of waste water closets the Council in 1954 decided to increase the grant to £7 10s. 0d., this sum including the cost of the necessary drainage work carried out by the Corporation.

Owing to the increased cost of drainage work this measure has not proved as successful as it was hoped, with the result that the conversion rate has not increased.

Consideration might be given to increasing the allowance of £7 10s. 0d.

(b) Public Cleansing.**Streets**

The cleansing of streets and clearance of snow is carried out by the Borough Engineer's Department.

**House and
Trade Refuse**

The collection of house and trade refuse is carried out under the supervision of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

Condemned meat and offal is disposed of by removal to Gallagher's (Offal Works) of Wigan.

The refuse from over 11,613 covered ash-bins is collected in approved motor vehicles, of which the Council now possess six "Karriers," of the side loading, end tipping type.

The great majority of the bins are emptied weekly but breaks occur in the regularity. In a town the size of Chorley, if this service is to be run with due economy, these breaks are almost inevitable and are due to such occurrences as national holidays, absenteeism and sickness. The weekly collection was well maintained during the year and recovery after holidays accelerated but continuous review of the service is necessary to keep up the frequency of collection. The good weather experienced during the summer months lightened the weight of refuse but greatly increased the bulk.

Men employed in refuse collection are:—

- 4 teams of 4 men each, on 4 waggons
- 1 team of 2 men on 1 waggon.
- 1 man on 1 waggon.

Several loaded waggons were weighed before tipping, they varied from 2 tons to 2 tons 5 cwts. The total amount of household rubbish transported to the tip was approximately 14,534 tons.

Baths

A number of the ashbinmen have no fixed bath in their homes but the Corporation offers facilities at the Public Baths.

Welfare

A room equipped with hot and cold water, gas cooker and coke stove is available for the use of men staying for mid-day meals.

Clothing

Each man is allowed a warm winter coat, overalls, gloves and goggles.

Ash-bins

11,613 ash-bins were emptied every 7 to 10 days except during the holiday periods. 442 bins were sold at 44/6d.

During the year 207 preliminary notices were served on owners to provide bins. At the year end 41 of the notices were not complied with.

Tipping

The refuse, with the exception of condemned meat and offal and those articles recovered under war-time salvage schemes, is disposed of by tipping. The tip was at Lawnwood.

Salvage

The salvage of wastepaper instituted during the war continues.

Pig Food

There are six licences issued to private collectors of kitchen waste, who collect approximately 150 tons per annum.

A person keeping less than 5 pigs, 5 breeding rabbits or 50 poultry, or who is a member of a registered pig club, may collect waste kitchen food without licence.

(c) Cleansing of Drains and Closets.

One man is now employed part-time on this work but he is also reserve labour for other work. It is therefore difficult to maintain an efficient drain cleansing service.

Several long-standing drain troubles causing periodical stoppages have been remedied. Some of the work, where repairs necessitate excavation is undertaken by the Borough Engineer's Department.

It is still apparent that owners or contractors make unauthorised openings into the drainage system without notification to or inspection by this department.

This practice must be deprecated as in some instances it leads to rat infestation and the breakdown of an otherwise good system.

(d) Lavatories and Urinals.

There are 17 public lavatories and 2 urinals in the town, cleaned and maintained by a staff of one male (full-time) and one female (part-time).

Other conveniences provided at Astley Hall and the Recreation Grounds are under the supervision of the Parks Department.

There is a noticeable insufficiency of lavatory and urinal accommodation throughout the Borough and modernisation of some existing conveniences is in urgent need.

Ablution facilities leave much to be desired and it is recommended that these facilities be considered under any new building or modernisation of conveniences.

Damage to locks, fittings and buildings has again been prevalent during the year.

4. Shops and Offices.

There were 696 registered shops in the borough at the end of the year.

Action taken in regard to provisions of the Shops Acts:—

Number of visits made	155
------------------------------	-----

Number of notices served	18
---------------------------------	----

Many verbal notices were given for minor contraventions of the Shops Acts and Public Health Act.

5. Camping Sites—Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.

Under the Chorley Corporation Act 1926 (section 92-3) no tent, caravan or similar structure is permitted to remain within the Borough, nor is it permitted for any land to be used to provide accommodation for such, without the consent of the Council.

6. Clean Air Act 1956.

During the year three applications were approved for the installation of new plant under Section 3 of the Act.

Routine observations of smoke emitted from factory and other non-domestic chimneys in the Borough were made as follows:—

No. of smoke observations made	242
---------------------------------------	-----

No. of visits to factories etc. for the purpose ...	261
---	-----

Excessive emissions recorded	7
-------------------------------------	---

The Atmospheric Pollution Gauge was in operation for 11 months during the year. I append figures showing the solid deposits since 1952.

Total solids deposited (in tons per sq. mile).						
1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
171	146	112	168	162	121	73
Average deposit per month						
14.34	14.6	9.3	14.0	13.5	12.1	6.7

7. Swimming Baths and Pools.

The Corporation Swimming Baths and Hartwood Hall are the only public "plunges" in use in the Borough.

During the year 14 Bacteriological and 2 Chemical samples were taken from the Corporation Baths and 5 Bacteriological samples from Hartwood Baths.

Following a sequence of unsatisfactory samples the filtration plant at the Public Baths was overhauled necessitating the plunge being closed in August. Unsatisfactory samples were also obtained from Hartwood Baths and the proprietor consulted the filtration engineers for advice on the management of the plant.

Regular sampling will have to be carried out to see that the necessary standards are maintained.

8. Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No. of Council houses found infested	...	...	...	—
No. of Council houses disinfested	...	...	...	—
No. of other houses found infested	...	...	...	3
No. of other houses disinfested	...	...	...	3

Disinfection of premises is performed by the use of Cimex or spraying with Zaldecide or other vermicide. Bedding and other suitable material is treated by steam disinfection.

9. Schools.

The list of schools in the Borough is given below:—

School Number	Name of School.
1.	Chorley All Saints' C.E.
2.	„ Duke Street County (Mixed).
2.	„ Duke Street County (Infants').
3.	„ Highfield County (Mixed).
3.	„ Highfield County (Infants').
4.	„ Hollinshead Street Congregational (Mixed).
4.	„ Hollinshead Street Congregational (Infants').

5.	„	Parochial (Boys).
5.	„	Parochial (Girls'.
5.	„	Parochial (Infants').
6.	„	Sacred Heart R.C. (Mixed).
6.	„	Sacred Heart R.C. (Infants').
7.	„	St. George's C.E. (Boys').
7.	„	St. George's C.E. (Girls').
7.	„	St. George's C.E. (Infants').
8.	„	St. James' C.E. (Mixed).
8.	„	St. James' C.E. (Infants').
9.	„	St. Joseph's R.C.
10.	„	St. Mark's C.E.
11.	„	St. Mary's R.C. (Mixed).
11.	„	St. Mary's R.C. (Infants').
12.	„	St. Peter's C.E. (Mixed).
12.	„	St. Peter's C.E. (Infants').
13.	„	Weld Bank R.C. (Mixed).
14.	„	Weld Bank R.C. (Infants').
80.	„	Duke. St. Practical Instruction Centre.
81.	„	Highfield Practical Instruction Centre.
101.	„	Southlands County Secondary.
130.	„	Grammar.
150.	„	Highfield Nursery School.
151.	„	Duke Street Nursery School.
104.	„	St. Augustine's R.C. Secondary (Boys').

It is a pleasure to report that progress has been made with regard to sanitary arrangements in some schools. There is one school however, with trough closets still in use, and it is hoped that they will be converted to fresh water closets in the near future.

Hand washing facilities are still below requirements at some of the schools.

10. Sanitary Inspection.

Total No. of sanitary inspections by inspectors	...	6776
No. of premises showing defects or nuisances	...	645
Informal notices served	...	645
Informal notices complied with	...	677
Statutory notices served under:—		
(a) Housing Acts	...	3
(b) Public Health Acts and Chorley Corpora- tian Act	...	29
Statutory notices complied with	...	36

Offensive Trades.

There are 4 premises registered for the purpose of carrying on trade classified as "offensive," namely Tripe dressing 3, and gut scraping 1.

These premises are all inspected to see that they conform to the bye-laws.

No. of visits made 22

Diseases of Animals—Acts and Orders.

Swine Fever	2 outbreaks of Swine Fever were confirmed. 2 Form A notices served. 4 Form B notices served. 496 Licences from outside sources checked. 103 Licences issued. 7 Special Orders received and checked.
Sheep Scab	No. action.
Fowl Pest 1950	4 confirmed outbreaks occurred in the Borough and restrictions placed on the premises. Restrictions of Movement (Form B) placed on 20 additional premises.
Anthrax Order	No action.
Foot and Mouth Disease Order	No outbreaks confirmed. 124 Movement Licences issued. 7 Movement Licences checked from outside sources. 36 Special Orders received and checked.
Importation of Animals Act	No Licences were issued and 12 from outside areas were checked.
Transit of Animals Order 1931	This Order deals with the Conveyance of animals to prevent unnecessary suffering. Several minor contraventions were dealt with and rectified by informal action.
Tuberculosis Order 1938	Notices of Intended Slaughter received (Form C) ... — Copies of notices requiring owner to detain animals received (Form A) — Bovines slaughtered in the abattoirs — Copies of notices to cleanse and disinfect premises received and complied with —

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949.**Rats and Mice Destruction.**

	Dwelling Houses	All Other	Agricultural
No. of properties inspected	222	429	45
No. of properties inspected which were found to be infested by:—			
Rats	141	128	4
Mice	81	25	—
No. of infested properties treated ...	222	153	4

Sewer treatments were also carried out during the year.

Rag Flock Act 1951.

Three premises were registered. 11 inspections were made during the year.

Common Lodging Houses.

The King Street Common Lodging House was closed on the 10th January, 1959. There are now no Common Lodging Houses in the Borough.

House let in lodgings.

There are several houses in the Borough which come into this category. In one instance overcrowding was relieved by informal action.

Factories Acts 1937 and 1948.**1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).**

Premises	No. on Register	Number of			
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	43	11	1	—	
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	154	81	4		
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out workers premises)	—	—	—		
TOTAL	197	92	5		

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	3	3	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective...	3	2	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act	—	—	1	—	—
	6	5	1	1	

Home Safety.

The Home Safety Committee has been very active during the year and in addition to their normal activities distributed Home Safety Slogan Games to all the Schools in the Borough.

Community Centre.

This Centre, administered by Trustees, provides facilities for use by the various local organisations in the town, thereby easing their problems considerably.

PART D.

Housing

HOUSING

General.

The main type of house in the Borough is a terraced type with either 4 or 5 habitable rooms. The common defects are defective roofs, walls, gutters, spouts, windows and lack of damp-proof courses. These defects are very liable to produce excessive dampness.

The total number of houses erected by the Council up to the end of 1959 was 1,765.

In spite of the efforts made by informal and statutory action the number of sub-standard houses remains high.

During the year 48 houses were represented as unfit for human habitation under the Housing Acts.

Clearance Areas and Individual Unfit Houses.

Clearance Areas (Housing Act 1957 and Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954).

		Houses Demolished	Persons Displaced
Houses Unfit for Human Habitation	... ..	20	182

Not in Clearance Areas.

As a result of formal or informal procedure
under Section 17, Housing Act 1957

8 1

Houses
Closed

Unfit Houses Closed.

Under Section 16 Housing Act 1957 9 36

8 houses comprising the Jackson Street No. 1 and No. 2 Clearance Areas were represented and the Council resolved that Compulsory Purchase Orders be made.

Confirmation was received from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government of Bolton Street No. 1, Bolton Street No. 2, Queen Street and Princess Street Compulsory Purchase Orders. The Queen Street Order without modification and the others with slight modification.

No. of new houses erected during the Year.

		1959
(1)	By the Local Authority	63
(2)	By other bodies or persons	48

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year.

1.	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts)	1127
	(b)	No. of inspections made for the purpose	3604
2.	(a)	No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	—
	(b)	Total No. (or estimated No.) existing at end of year	848
3.		No. of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	645

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of Formal Notice.

No. of dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	641
---	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

A.	Proceedings under Sections 9, and 16 of Housing Act, 1957.		
	(1)	No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	3
	(2)	No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice	
		(a) by Owners	15
		(b) by Local Authority in default of owners ...	1
B.	Proceedings under Public Health Act.		
	(1)	No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	29
	(2)	No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were <i>remedied</i>	
		(a) by Owners	20
		(b) by Local Authority in default of owners ...	—
C.	Proceedings under sections 16, 17 and 35 of the Housing Act 1957.		
	(1)	No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	28

(2)	No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	28
(3)	No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings have been received and accepted	9
D.	Proceedings under section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957,	
(1)	No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—
(2)	No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	—

4. Housing Act, 1958. Improvement Grants etc:—

Action During Year:—	No. of Schemes	Private Bodies or Individuals No. of Dwelling Houses or other Buildings affected	No. of Schemes	Local Authority No. of Dwelling Houses or other Buildings affected
(a) Submitted by private individuals to Local Authority	25	25	—	—
(b) Submitted by Local Authority to Ministry	—	—	—	—
(c) Finally approved by Ministry	—	—	—	—
(d) Work Completed	17	17	—	—
(e) Additional separate dwellings included in (a) above	—	—	—	—

5. House Purchase and Housing Act 1959.

STANDARD GRANTS

(a) Applications submitted to Local Authority	8
(b) Applications approved by Local Authority	5

6. Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954. Housing Act 1957.

No. of applications for certificates of disrepair	5
Certificates of disrepair issued	5
Certificates of disrepair cancelled	8

7. Particulars of Housing Schemes.

- (i) In hand at end of the year.
Eaves Lane Housing Site.

8. Housing of the Aged.

The Council have in earlier schemes shown foresight in providing for the aged in bungalows and flats.

14 Flats were provided on the Princess Street Housing Site and Eaves Lane Housing Site.

Discussions have taken place in Committee relative to the County Council's Scheme for the Housing of the Aged. Under this Scheme the County Council are prepared to reimburse District Councils for welfare facilities provided in housing for the aged, such as the provision of a warden on a call-bell system, a common room, laundry facilities etc.

Such a scheme would of course require the prior approval of the County Council but would in my opinion be a great asset.

PART E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

PART E.**INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD****(A) MILK SUPPLY.**

In April, 1956, the Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) Order, 1956, came into force so far as Chorley and surrounding districts were concerned, it became necessary for retailers to sell only designated milk; these comprise Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised or Sterilised.

Action taken in the administration of Milk and Dairies Acts and Regulations:—

1. The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949-54.
No. of dealers' licences issued by the Local Authority during 1959:—
"Tuberculin Tested Milk 28
2. The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations 1949.
No. of licences issued in respect of "Heat Treated" Milk:
 - (i) Pasteurising Plants — 1 Sterilising Plants — 1.
 - (ii) Retail distributors.
 - (a) Pasteurised ... 53
 - (b) Sterilised ... 100
3. Action taken by the Local Authority in relation to:—
 - (a) Raw Milk:—
 1. Tuberculosis—Biological Tests.
Samples 17 Negative 17 Positive — No Result 1
 2. Brucellosis.
Samples 17 Satisfactory 16 Unsatisfactory 1
 3. Methylene Blue Reduction Test.
Samples 17 Satisfactory 16 Unsatisfactory 1
 - (b) Heat Treated Milk:—
 - "Pasteurised":—
 1. Phosphatase Test.
Samples 47 Satisfactory 46 Unsatisfactory 1
 2. Methylene Blue Reduction Test.
Samples 47 Satisfactory 47 Unsatisfactory —
 3. "Sterilised":—
 - Turbidity Test.
Samples 15 Satisfactory 15 Unsatisfactory —

(B) Meat and Other Foods.**1. Meat****Abattoirs.**

There are no private slaughter-houses in the Borough, the Corporation providing a public abattoir.

Slaughtermen holding licences during the year ... 17

Meat Inspection.

All meat entering the abattoirs is examined by your Public Health Inspectors acting under the bye-laws made in 1939, under section 104 of the Chorley Corporation Act 1926.

Every animal and carcase, including frozen meat and all packaged and canned meats, are kept under close supervision.

Under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924, all vehicles carrying meat are inspected and if necessary, ordered to be brought up to the requirements of the regulations.

The following table shows the meat inspection results for the year:—

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number Killed	2408	40	8565	4165
Number Inspected	2408	40	8570	4174
All Diseases except Tuberculosis				
Whole Carcasses Condemned	7	7	12	13
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	565	2	491	514
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Diseases other than Tuberculosis	23.8%	22.5%	5.9%	12.6%
Tuberculosis only				
Whole carcasses condemned	2	1	—	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	217	—	—	60
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	9.1%	2.5%	—	1.4%
Cysticercosis				
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	12	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	11	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—

It will be noted that there is again a decrease in the number of animals affected with tuberculosis. In 1954, the percentage was 32.2%, this has progressively decreased to this year's figure of 9.1%. The Tuberculosis Eradication Orders have largely contributed to these remarkable results.

**Abattoir
Welfare**

A room is provided for slaughterhouse men. This is warmed by a coke stove, and equipped with hot water, electric lighting, and gas stove for cooking purposes.

Examinations of Food Stocks or Consignments During Year.

Type of Food	Quantity Examined	Quantity Condemned lbs.
Bacon	79	79
Pork	78	78
Beef	463	463
Sausages	24	24
Fish	58	58
Chicken	8	8
Fruit	100	100
Potatoes	120	120
Flour	40	40
Suet	19	19
Sugar	3	3
Ham (Tinned)	1335	1335
Tongue (Tinned)	433	433
Corned Beef (Tinned)	159	159
Luncheon Meat (Tinned)	173	173
Tins, packets of other foods	1827	1717

Food Hygiene Regulations 1955. Bye Laws Sale of Food Etc. 1950.**Food Premises
and Markets**

Activity in the field of food hygiene was again intensified during 1959 and altogether 575 visits were made to food premises, 11 informal notices were served under the provisions of the Regulations and 18 notices were complied with during the year. Informal action of a verbal nature without the service of notice has resulted in many premises being brought up to standard.

Markets

Since the report made to the Health and Sanitary Committee in June 1958 conditions under which foodstuffs were being sold on the Markets have appreciably improved.

The covering-in of stalls on the General Market has helped considerably but there is still room for improvement on the Cattle Market.

Constant routine inspections had to be made to ensure the protection of food by keeping it over 18 inches above ground level and several warnings had to be given to stallholders.

Stallholders had also to be warned on a number of occasions for failing to display their names and addresses.

Registration of Premises

A regular inspection is made of shops and vehicles, and other premises used in the manufacture or preparation of food stuffs, many of which—such as premises used in preparing ice cream, potted and preserved meats, etc—have to be registered under either the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, or the Lancashire County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951.

Food Premises by Type of Business in District at end of year.

TYPE OF BUSINESS

General Grocers and provision dealers	163
Greengrocers and fruiterers (incl. those selling wet fish, game etc).	24
Fishmongers (incl. those selling poultry, game, etc.) ...	5
Meat shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meat, tripe, etc).	43
Bakers and/or confectioners	44
Fried fish shops	26
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice cream, etc	34
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafés, snack bars and similar catering establishments	124
Others	14

- Hawkers** There were 36 hawkers registered under these acts.
- Potted Meats** Premises used for the preparation of potted and preserved meat, fish, etc., numbered 29.
- Fish Fryers** There are 26 fried fish shops on the register. Bye-laws governing these were made in 1939. All were visited by the Public Health Inspectors during the year.
- Bakehouses** There are 44 bakehouses in the Borough.
- Many bakehouses are adapted from dwelling-houses and are not very suitable for the purposes of storage of foodstuffs or for easy cleaning.

Ice-Cream

In 1959 there were 149 premises registered by this Authority under the Food and Drugs Acts.

Of these premises, 1 manufactures their own ice cream in Chorley.

188 Inspections were made of registered premises.

Action taken under Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947-52:—

1 sample was taken giving the following result:—

Grade I. Grade II. Grade III. Grade IV.

— 1 — —

The defined grades are obtained by the use of the methylene blue reduction test which affords a good index of the degree of contamination of the product.

Grades I and II. are considered satisfactory, the time taken to reduce methylene blue being $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours or more.

Grades III. and IV. are considered unsatisfactory, the time taken to reduce methylene blue for Grade II being $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 hours, and, and Grade IV. 0 hours.

3 Samples of Orange Drink were submitted for bacteriological examination, all samples being satisfactory.

(C) Adulteration of Foods.

No legal action was taken during the year under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act 1928, or other acts.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Chemical analyses of foods are undertaken by the County Analyst to the Lancashire County Council.

The bacteriological analyses of milk and other foods is undertaken at the laboratories of the Preston Royal Infirmary.

Milk.

Formal samples taken ...	...	...	...	...	35
Informal samples taken	...	...	...	...	—
Unsatisfactory samples	...	...	...	...	—

Other Foods.

Samples taken	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Comprising :—							
Sausage	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tea	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Condiments	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Sugar Confectionery	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Prepared Foods	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Dairy Produce (other than milk)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cereals and Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Samples unsatisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
No. of visits made in execution of above Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	188

(D) Food Poisoning.

6 cases of Food Poisoning were notified, 2 being connected with an outbreak in Blackpool.

PART F.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other diseases.

DISEASES

A. Notifiable Infectious Diseases (except T.B.).

1. Prevalence:—

1959 and 1958.

1959

Disease	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	Total Cases	Cases Admitted to Hospital
Measles	116	162	20	2	300	—
Scarlet Fever	6	5	5	13	29	16
Diphtheria... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	3	—	2	4	9	—
Pneumonia	40	2	3	—	45	1
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polio-myelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	2	2	1
Puerperal Pyrexia... ..	3	2	4	—	9	9*
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	1	—	1	—
Food Poisoning	—	2	4	—	6	1
Dysentery	—	11	13	—	24	3
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	—

1958

Measles	—	1	4	4	9	—
Scarlet Fever	5	4	1	13	23	11
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	21	4	2	4	31	5
Erysipelas	—	1	1	2	4	2
Puerperal Pyrexia... ..	5	4	1	5	15	11 *
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	1	—	2	—	3	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polio Myelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—

*—All these cases actually occurred in Hospital.

During the first quarter of the year Influenza was prevalent and there were 8 deaths attributed to this cause compared with 4 in the previous year.

Measles showed a large increase in the number of notifications especially in the first two quarters of the year.

PART G.

New Legislation

1959.

The following legislation came into force during 1959 except where otherwise stated:—

New Legislation

The Meat (Staining & Sterilization) Regulations 1959.

The Milk & Dairies (General) Regulations 1959.

The Meat (Staining & Sterilization) (Revocation) Regulations 1959.

The Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) (Amendment) Regulations 1959.

The Slaughterhouses Licences (Forms and Records) Regulations 1959.

The Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) (Amendment) Regulations 1959.

Highways Act, 1959.

National Assistance (Amendment) Act 1959.

House Purchase & Housing Act, 1959.

Housing (Underground Rooms) Act, 1959.

Factories Act, 1959.

Mental Health Act, 1959.

